[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [2nd November 1931

will make an earnest attempt to place them on the table of the House. But the date of the next meeting has not yet been definitely settled and there may be some difficulty."

The motion of the hon. the Law Member was by leave withdrawn.

The motion of Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan was put and carried.

(2) THE TIRUMALAI-TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS BILL.

*Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move that the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Bill[a] (Bill No. 15 of 1931), and move that it be referred to the same Select Committee as the one to which the Bill of Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar has been referred."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" I second the motion."

The motion was put and carried.

(3) THE MARUMAKKATTAYAM BILL.

* Mr. R. M. PALAT:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the Marumakkattayam Bill [a] (Bill No. 20 of 1931) be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following Members:—

(1) The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
(2) The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
(3) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
(4) Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
(5) Mr. C. Krishnan.
(6) Mr. P. Madhusoodhanan Thangal.
(7) Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib.
(8) B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
(9) Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
(10) Mr. A. B. Shetty.
(11) Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
(12) Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
(13) Mr. F. E. James.
(14) Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
(15) Mover.

" As has already been mentioned in this Council last Saturday, this is not the first time that a Bill to alter the Marumakkattayam Law has been before the House. Marumakkattayam Law is the system of law by which rights to property are governed by and solely by relationships traced through females. The essence of inheritance in this system is descent from a female as distinct from descent from a male.

" The late Mr. Justice Muthuswami Ayyar in his memorandum as President of the Malabar Marriage Commission of 1890 describes the Marumakkattayam family or tarwad as follows:—

'It consists of several mothers and children and their descendants in the female line all tracing their descent from a common female ancestor and living

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 18th August 1931.